

# NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DES MOINES, IOWA



## Media Advisory

2005-04

February 22, 2005

### Severe Weather Awareness Week— March 28 Through April 1, 2005

Severe Weather Awareness Week in Iowa will be from March 28, 2005 through April 1, 2005. The purpose of Severe Weather Awareness Week is to increase the public's awareness and knowledge of severe weather and other hazards and how best to respond to them.

During Severe Weather Awareness Week, the National Weather Service will promote severe-weather safety by issuing informative Public Information Statements. Daily topics will include NOAA Weather Radio, severe thunderstorm hazards, tornadoes, family preparedness and extreme heat.

On Wednesday, March 30, 2005, the annual tornado drill will be held. Here is the timeline for this year's drill:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 830 A.M. CST   | Page and e-mail notification to 51 central Iowa emergency management officials about a test conference call to be held at 930 A.M.  |
| 930 A.M. CST   | Conference call with emergency management officials about test severe weather.  |
| 10:00 A.M. CST | Storm Prediction Center issues TEST tornado watch for all 99 Iowa Counties using new Watch Outline Update message. The test message will be tone alerted and sent through the Emergency Alert System. The Watch will be valid for one hour. |
| 10:10 A.M. CST | Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) in Omaha and Sioux Falls issue TEST tornado warnings for their Iowa counties valid for 20 minutes.   |
| 10:15 A.M. CST | WFO Des Moines issues a TEST tornado warning for central Iowa valid for 20 minutes.   |
| 10:20 A.M. CST | WFO's Quad Cities and La Crosse issue TEST tornado warnings for their Iowa counties valid for 20 minutes.<br>WFO's Omaha and Sioux Falls issue Severe Weather Statement's (SVS) as follow-ups to their tornado warnings.                    |
| 10:25 A.M. CST | WFO Des Moines issues a follow-up SVS for its tornado warning.  |
| 10:30 A.M. CST | WFO Omaha and Sioux Falls issue SVS's to expire their tornado warnings.<br>WFO Quad Cities and La Crosse issue follow-up SVS's for their tornado warnings.  |
| 10:35 A.M. CST | WFO Des Moines issues a SVS to expire its tornado warning.  |
| 10:40 A.M. CST | WFO Quad Cities and La Crosse issue SVS's to expire their tornado warnings.   |
| 11:00 A.M. CST | Test tornado watch expires.   |

***The Test tornado warnings will be issued using the Emergency Alert System (EAS) TOR code.***

All Severe Weather Awareness Week information plus links to national preparedness material will be on the Des Moines National Weather Service web site at [www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx) by March 5, 2005. **Media coverage is vital to the success of Severe Weather Awareness Week and will be greatly appreciated.** Please contact Jeff Johnson at the National Weather Service by telephone at 515-270-4501 or by e-mail at [jeff.johnson@noaa.gov](mailto:jeff.johnson@noaa.gov) to schedule a severe weather preparedness interview, or to partner in preparedness activities or productions.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#). Questions or comments? Contact [jeff.johnson@noaa.gov](mailto:jeff.johnson@noaa.gov) or call (515) 270-4501.

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